A briefe

Treatiſe.

Diſcouering in ſubſtance the offences, and vngodly practiſes *of the late* 14. *Traitors condemned on the* 26. of Auguſt. 1588.

With the maner of the execution *of eight of them, which was on* the 28. of Auguſt following.

Seene and allowed.

LONDON.

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A Briefe

The ſubſtance of the offences *and practiſes of fourteene* Traitors.

IT is not a little to bee maruelled at, to ſée how ſome many of our Engliſh nation are (by wicked members) perſuaded and allured to become Coparteners in dangerous actions, as well towards their Prince and nation, as alſo to the hurt of their ſoules, the loſſe of their liues and goods from their children for euer: not reſpecting their duetie and naturall care to the loue, feare, and obedience of God their Prince & Countrie: as hath bæn of late yeeres ſæne amongſt vs in manie of them, who for their wicked practiſes (according to their deſert) haue iuſtly bæn condemned and executed. The ſubſtance of whoſe ententions is well ſæne and knowen to the whole world, but chiefly to the good and duetifull ſubiects of this land. Firſt, how that all ỳ ſect or fellowſhip of theſe ſorts of Traitors in generall haue ſought, the depriuation of her Maieſtie from her Crown and dignitie Royall, whereunto ſhée is lawfully de-

cended. Secondly, to murther, Massaker, spoile, and put downe the chiefest props and pillers of this land, namely her highnes most honorable Councell, & other the Peeres and Nobilitie thereof. Thirdly, by complotting with forreine power to procure invasion, thereby to overthrow the peaceable gouernment, and to ruinate the whole state & common wealth of England. And last of all, to set vp some forrein usurping Potentate, and vnder him to bring in a new kinde of Religion, stuffed full of blasphemie, idolatrie, hipocrisie, and such other trash mixed with the dregs & relikes of old Antichrist: and thereby for euer to rote out the peaceable gouernment of this land, and the free libertie of the Gospell of Christ Jesus now daily preached and freely exercised amongst vs, which God of his mercie continue to the worlds ende.

The ground of all which wicked practises hath ben wrought by the Popes of Rome and their Ministers, and the better to bring the same to passe, first they sought to slander and beat downe the Christian religion (now vsed) by sending Bulles into this land, besides other such like Popish toyes, as Agnus Dei's, & pardons to sundry their Ministers, and to their friends & fauourers Copes and such like furniture, for to sing & say Masse and obsequies for the soules of the dead, and

han

haue condemned vs as heritikes and dam-
nable people, without wee would leaue of
the profession of the true and sinceare religi-
on now amongst vs vsed, & become (as they
termed it) members of the Church of Rome
in acknowledging the Pope supreme head
of the Church of England. And to the ende it
might take a deepe impression in the hearts
of the people, he did send ouer from Rome a
verie seditious and traiterous Bull against
the Queenes most excellent maiestie, and the
estates of this land, whereby hee committed
great offence to God, and wrong to her high-
nes: by cursing her maiestie with Bell, booke
and candle, whose highnes euerie moment
the God of heauen blesseth and preserueth.
And sure if the Pope had any sparke of true
Christianitie in him, hee would neuer offer
(as hee hath lately done by a new Bull) to
curse her whom God blesseth: but rather
would punish and send home (by banishing
from him) such of her bad & vnnaturall sub-
iects now within his Regiment, whom hee
and his ministers hath long persuaded to his
Papall doctrine, now plaine fugitiues and
right Rebels to God their Prince and coun-
trie: and the rather hee ought so to do, by
reason she is a lawfull Prince born by Roy-
all desent and lawfull succession, to weare
the Crowne and Diademe of England. And

they are subiects to her, who in her dominions representeth vpon earth the person of God, sitting in the seate of God to minister iustice to euery one, as she hath done during the whole time of her reign, euen with great clemencie and mercie to sundry bad and notorious offenders. Amongst whom his bad ministers and her maiesties bad and euil disposed subiects, hee found out one Iohn Felton, to him was this Bull committed in charge, vpon trust that hee should set vp the same in England: which thing he did at the Bishop of Londons gate, where, for his traiterous & rash attempt the saide Felton was iustly executed.

Yet it is to be noted, that the said Felton (being a verie bad member to this land,) did so farre nuzzell his sonne vp in Popery, and did acquaint him with such like traiterous practises that he would needes become a fellow companion with Traitors euen to the death, and was condemned in this company for high treason.

Sundry of these fourteene now condemned Traitors were Seminary Priestes, such as seeing the Popes Bulles were not regarded, nor his pardons once receiued into the hearts of good subiects, nor might not bee suffered to bee brought ouer into this lande

without

without danger of life, they and other their fellow Traitors deuised this shift, they haue come into this lande in the habite and apparrell of Gentlemen, and such as were not likely to bee adiudged for Masking or Seminary Priestes, and these lolly headed fellows hauing good maintenance from sundry their secrete fauourers and fellowe Traitors, would scrape acquaintance with Gentlemen, yea and with some of greater degree in title, where and with whom (they would ride a hawking and hunting. Some of them vnder the colour of comming a wooing to their daughters, their neighbours heires, or Gentlemens daughters about the Countrie, woulde thus remayne sometime a moneth, two or three, more or lesse, if then doubtfull of anie thing, or that hee or they were suspected, then they woulde hie them from that place into some other Gentlemans house, or out of that shire into an other, vntill they did heare by their friendes and secrete fauourers howe euerie thing stood from time to time: and so during the time of their sojourning in those and such like places, they did secretely perswade their friendes, fauourers, and wel-willers from their due obedience to their Prince and Countrie, contrarie to lawe. And

thus by their subtil persuasion they won a great number in this land so far from their obedience, that they were readie to take armes against the queenes most exellent Maiestie, and her loyall subiects, when any insurrection was, as manie did in the North parts of England with the Earles of Northumberland & Westmerland, and as it had been seene at the late comming of the Spaniards to invade this Realme had not the same been verie providently & carefully foreseene & prevented by the queenes most exellent Maiestie and her wise and honorable Councell. Some others of them hath been practisers and conspirers of Treasons with notorious Traitors, as Throgmorton, Babington, with his confederates and such like, who have heretofore been executed for their inhumane treasons towardes their Prince and Countrie. Some of these Seminary Priests are such as have returned into this land since they were banished, and by her Maiesties great clemencie sent out of the land, (at her highnes great charges,) & since their returne, they have secretly lurked in sundry places of England, to the entent only to sconce and withdraw sundry her loving subiects from their due obedience as is aforesaid: which is of it selfe high treason.

Thus

Thus doth the pope and the secret enemies to this land send forth such their bannels or rather as I may tearme them their hell-hounds, who to bring to passe their wicked ententes, shame not to perswade that it is lawful to murder princes, and to lay violent handes vpon them being the Lords annoynted. O damnable opinion: Farre be it from the heartes of Gods children once to conceaue or harbor so wicked a thought in their heartes. But the deuill who is the author of euill being accustomed to haue his chappell neere where God buildeth his Church, stirreth vp his wicked members to be inuentors of such detestable opiniõs therby to creepe into the Church of God and to be mayntained and taken hold of among ignorant people as an article of their faith.

And this is to be noted that whatsoeuer harme, the pope enterpriseth or entendeth towards England, he seldome sendeth any of his owne nation, but hee doth generally stirre vp English men to be the instruments thereof: And first like a fore he drawes them from vs as lambes, and after hee hath well nusled them in his heretical doctrine and blinde ignorance, then sendeth he thẽ among vs like woolues to infect seduce and entangle other his countreymen with the same: so that he seeketh by all meanes to make one

of vs to be the spoyle and ouerthrowe of an other, whereby is plainly discerned the malicious minde and intent which he beareth towardes vs. God for his mercy sake poure his grace into our heartes and graunt vs the spirite of true vnderstanding, that we may auoyd the snares of such charmers and inchaunters and liue like true subiectes to our Prince and countrey.

To conclude, these seminarie priestes, these inhumayne Traytors agaynst God, their prince and countrey (being brought to the ordinary place of Iudgement before her Maiesties Iustices at the sessions house) were seuerally arraigned indicted and found guilty and condemned for the matters before recited with much more circumstance then is here needefull to be set downe. Where they were found very obstinate not shewing any sufficient ground of doctrine or reason for the defence of their erronious opinions and treasons committed, onely saying they are Catholoiques, and therein they will die. And notwithstanding her Maiesties mercy was there offered by the worshipful Iustices to pardon and saue some of them from death for the aforesayd offences which they had worthely deserued (so that and vpon condition they would hereafter become conformable to hir Maiesties lawes

and

and liue from time to time like good & true subiectes) yet did they obstinately refuse the same, and denied hir Maiestie to be supreme head of the Church of England, except Iohn Vallentine and VVilliam Pere, which two men willingly recanted: acknowledging the queenes most excellent Maiestie to be supreame head of the church of England. And by an othe ministred vnto them by her Maiesties Iustices then present, did sweare to become conformable to hir highnesse: and to liue as a true subiect to hir maiestie during life. It is to be remembred that there was sirteene in all arraigned whereof these two did recant, so that there was fourteene condéned besids them that did recant: which fourtéene for their manifolde and grieuous treasons and their peruerse and obstinate opinions were set forth to heere their iudgementes, which was as followeth, that ten of them should be drawen, hanged and quartered and the other foure to be hanged, where it should please hir highnesse to appoynt. And so they being pinnioned and their handes bound, were conueyed backe againe to the Gaole of Newgate in such sorte that all the people might easily see them.

The

The maner and order of their execution with the places where they were executed.

After that iudgement had proceeded against them as is aforesayd: the Sheriffes of the citie of London stayed the execution of these traytors vntill they might vnderstand hir Maiesties further pleasure.

And albeit her highnesse was fully satisfied of their wicked and secret practises, their vnnaturall and vngodly offences committed towardes God, her person and the whole state, of the realme as also howe peruerst and obstinate they were in their irreligious opinions, yet did her highnesse on the next day following, of hir most gracious accustomed and vnspeakable clemencie giue commaundement, that none of those fourteene Traytors shoulde be drawen or quartered according to their iudgement before receaued: but with great mercy and compassion towardes them did mittigate the same onely commaunding that they should be hanged in sundry places neere London. So that vpon the 28. of August last in the forenoone VVilliam Guntur one of the Traytors being a seminary priest came first into the cart who sayd nothing but sate him downe.

After him came Henry VVeblen who sayd

in

in the carte that he was a man of occupation and that hee was condemned for harboring of such as were seminary priestes, denying obstinately that he neuer offended hir Maiestie, but that he died for his conscience: and yet to harbour such as were traytors in treason of it selfe, and to denie hir highnesse to be supreame head of the Church of England is also high treason: and so lasking and therin smiling in the carte he sat him down.

After him came VVilliam Deane a man of a very peruerse minde and opinion, who mumbling to him selfe in Latine: and seeming to iustifie his bad and detestable opinion, the people cryed downe with him into the carte, whereunto these three being tied, they were conueyed along the citie to Wyleend where VViliam Deane and Henry VVebley shewing themselues peruerse traitors were hanged vppon a Iebbit newly set vp for them. Then was VVilliam Guntur conuaied into Hollywell fieldes neere to the Theator or Playhouse where maister sheriffe willed him to call vpon God for pardon and acknowledge his offences to hir maiestie whereat he aunswered that he would aske pardon of God, but not of hir Maiestie, saying he had neuer offended her, and so he was hanged vpon a newe Iebbit prepared for him.

After

After this the sheriffes and their officers returned to Newgate where they fetcht frō thence in a carte Robert Morten, Hugh More, and Thomas Acton: these three were tyed in the carte, and so were conueyed into Lincolnes Inne fieldes, where (vpon a Iebbit) vsing the like speeche as the other had done, two of them ended their liues. From thence they conueyed the third man to Clarken Well, whose name was Thomas Acton, where a Iebbit was set vp and there he ended his life in maner as the rest did before. Then the sheriffs againe returned to Newgate: and tooke forth Thomas Felton aforesayd, who with Iames Clarkson were set vppon two seuerall horses, pinnioned their feete tyed vnder the horse belly, and their handes tyed also, who being conueied to Braynford, were there executed accordingly.

And thus they were hanged in seuerall places to the example of all other their fauourers and secret Traytors whome the Lord of his mercy conuerte or speedely bring to light that they may be cut off by Iustice according to their deserte.

FINIS.

¶ The names of the viii. Traitors *executed on the eight and twentith of Auguſt.*

VVilliam Deane, and Henry VVebley, executed at Myle-end.

VVilliam Guntur, executed at the Theater.

Robert Moorten, and Hugh Moore, executed at Lincolns Inne fieldes.

Thomas Acton, executed at Clarken-VVell.

Thomas Felton, and *Iames* Clarkſon, executed betweene Braynford and Hunſloe, neere London.

The names of them that are *to be executed.*

Richard Flewett, Henry Foxell, Edward Shelly, Richard Leigh, Richard Marten, and *Iohn* Rooche.

The naines of them that *recanted.*

Iohn Vallentine and VVilliam Pere.